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SPECIFICATION

1. TITLE OF THE INVENTION TRANSPORT CONTAINER FOR NUCLEAR FUEL PELLETS

2. CLAIM

A transport container for nuclear fuel pellets, comprising:

a pellet holder body including a plurality of tubular pellet-storing portions arranged in parallel with each other, each of said pellet-storing portions having a size slightly greater than the diameter of a nuclear fuel pellet;

a pair of cover members detachably attached, respectively, at both ends of said pellet holder body, each of said cover members including a plurality of elastic plugs adapted to be fittedly inserted, respectively, into the ends of said pellet-storing portions; and

a heat and shock-resistant enclosure receiving said pellet holder body therein.

3. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION [OBJECT OF THE INVENTION]

[Field of Industrial Application]

The present invention relates to a transport container for nuclear fuel pellets, and more particularly to a transport container capable of transporting nuclear fuel pellets while maintaining the equality thereof.

[Prior Art]

Heretofore, in transporting a typical ceramic product, a cushioning body has been used to support the ceramic product stored in a transport container so as to absorb vibrations and shocks caused during transportation to prevent the ceramic product from being damaged.

[Problem to be solved by the Invention]

However, in view of quality maintenance, it is prohibited that nuclear fuel pellets are in contact with a typical cushioning body containing hydrogen or halogen. Thus, there is the need for developing a transport container capable of transporting nuclear fuel pellet without deterioration in their quality, even using a cushioning body.

Moreover, in an operation of taking nuclear fuel pellets in and out at a sender's location or a receiver's location, the container is required to have a structure excellent in handleability for providing reduced radiation exposure and enhanced operation efficiency.

In view of the above problems, it is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a transport container capable of transporting nuclear fuel pellets in such a manner that they are stored in pellet-storing portions without contact with any cushioning body, while maintaining the quality of the nuclear fuel pellets, and of providing excellent handleability.

[FEATURE OF THE INVENTION]

[Means for solving the Problem]

The present invention is characterized by comprising: a pellet holder body including a plurality of tubular pellet-storing portions arranged in parallel with each other, wherein each of the pellet-storing portions has a size slightly greater than the diameter of a nuclear fuel pellet; a

pair of cover members detachably attached, respectively, at both ends of the pellet holder body, wherein each of the cover members includes a plurality of elastic plugs adapted to be fittedly inserted, respectively, into the ends of the pellet-storing portions; and a heat and shock-resistant enclosure receiving the pellet holder body therein.

[Function]

For transporting nuclear fuel pellets, one of the holder cover members is attached to one of the ends of the pellet holder body, and then the nuclear fuel pellets are stored in the pellet-storing portions using a pushing machine or the like. After the other holder cover member is attached to the other end of the pellet holder body, the pellet holder body is received in the heat and shock-resistant enclosure. In this state, both ends of each line of the nuclear fuel pellets in the pellet-storing portions are elastically pressed by the elastic plugs. Thus, the elastic plugs reliably prevent the nuclear fuel pellets from moving in the axial direction of the pellet-storing portions, and the pellet-storing portions prevent the nuclear fuel pellets from moving in the radial direction of the pellet-storing portions. In addition, since the pellet holder body storing the nuclear fuel pellets is contained in the transport enclosure having a cushioning body built-in, the nuclear fuel pellets is not brought into direct contact with the cushioning member. This prevents deterioration in quality of nuclear fuel pellets.

[Embodiment]

FIG. 1 is a partially cut-out side view of a pellet holder, and FIG. 2 is a front view of a pellet holder body. The pellet holder body 1 includes a plurality of tubular pellet-storing portions 2 arranged in parallel with each other. Each of the pellet-storing portions 2 has a size slightly greater than the diameter of a nuclear fuel pellet (not shown). A pair of holder covers 3 are detachably attached, respectively, to both ends of the pellet holder body 1. Each of the holder covers 3 includes a plurality of elastic plugs 4, such as a spring mechanism, adapted to be fittedly inserted into the corresponding pellet-storing portion 2.

FIG. 3 shows a transport enclosure having a cushioning member built-in. This enclosure has substantially the same structure as that of a conventional container for use in transporting uranium dioxide powder, and can assure desired sealing performance, heat resistance and shock resistance. In FIG. 3, the enclosure comprises an outer case 5, an inner case 6, a heat-insulating material 7 provided between the outer and inner cases, and an inner enclosure cover 9 detachably attached to the upper portion of the inner case 6 through a gasket 8 using a bolt 10. Further, an outer enclosure cover 12 is attached to an upper opening of the enclosure defining by the inner and outer cases. The inner surface of the outer enclosure cover 12 has a heat-insulating material 11 attached thereonto. Furthermore, the inner case 6 contains a cushioning member 13, such as a spring mechanism, capable of elastically mounting the pellet holder body 1.

For transporting nuclear fuel pellets, one of the holder covers 3 is first attached to one of the ends of the pellet holder body 1, and then the nuclear fuel pellets are stored in the pellet-storing portions 2 using a pushing machine or a pushing rod (not shown). Then, the other holder cover 3 is attached to the other end of the pellet holder body 1. This holder body 1 containing the nuclear fuel pellets in the pellet-storing portions 2 is placed on the cushioning member 13 provided at the lower region of the inner case 6, and then the gasket 8, the inner enclosure cover 9 and the outer enclosure cover 12 are attached.

For taking the nuclear fuel pellets out of a nuclear-fuel-pellet transport container assembled as above, the outer enclosure cover 12 and the inner enclosure cover 9 are detached, and then the pellet holder body 1 is taken out of the inner case 6. Then, after the holder covers 3 attacked to both ends of the pellet holder 1 are detached, the nuclear fuel pellets can be pushed out of the pellet-storing portions 2 of the pellet holder body 1 using the pushing machine or the pushing rod.

In the above nuclear-fuel-pellet transport container, when the nuclear fuel pellets are stored

in the pellet-storing portions 2 of the pellet holder body 1, the pellet-storing portions 2 each having a size slightly greater than the diameter of the nuclear fuel pellet can prevent the nuclear fuel pellets from moving in the radial direction of the pellet-storing portions 2. Further, both ends of each line of the nuclear fuel pellets are elastically pressed by the elastic plugs 4, such as a spring mechanism, fittedly into both ends of each of in the pellet-storing portions 2 of the pellet holder body 1. Thus, even if the lines of the nuclear fuel pellets are different in length, the elastic plugs can reliably prevent the nuclear fuel pellets from moving in the axial direction of the pellet-storing portions. Furthermore, since the pellet holder body 1 storing the nuclear fuel pellets in the pellet-storing portions 2 is placed on the cushioning member 13, the nuclear fuel pellets is not brought into direct contact with the cushioning member 13. This prevents deterioration in quality of nuclear fuel pellets. The cushioning member 13, such as a spring mechanism, mounting the pellet holder body 1 thereon can also provide enhanced holding force for the pellet holder body 1, and absorb vibrations and shocks. The inner enclosure cover 9 attached to the inner case 6 through the gasket 8 using the bolt 10 can assure a sealing performance. The stricture including the heat-insulating material 7 provided between the outer case 5 and the inner cases 6, and the outer enclosure cover 12 covering the outer case 5 and the inner cases 6 allows legal transport regulations on heat resistance and shock resistance to be

The present invention is not limited to the above embodiment. For example, the pellet-storing portions 2 of the pellet holder body 1 are not limited to the configuration illustrated in FIG. 2, but may be a grid or lattice-like configuration. Further, the pellet holder body 1 is not limited to the tubular shape illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 2, but may have a rectangular parallelepiped shape or the like. Furthermore, the outer and inner cases 5, 6 are not limited to the structure of receiving the pellet holder body 1 vertically as illustrated in FIG. 3, but may be constructed to receive the pellet holder body horizontally. [EFFECT OF THE INVENTION]

According to the present invention, the pellet holder body 1 storing nuclear fuel pellets in the pellet-storing portions is placed on the cushioning member, such as a spring mechanism, provided in the heat and shock-resistant enclosure. Thus, the nuclear fuel pellets are not brought into direct contact with the cushioning body. Further, both ends of each line of the nuclear fuel pellets in the pellet-storing portions are elastically pressed by the elastic plugs. Thus, the elastic plugs reliably prevent the nuclear fuel pellets from moving in the axial direction of the pellet-storing portions prevent the nuclear fuel pellets from moving in the radial direction of the pellet-storing portions, so that the nuclear fuel pellets can avoid damages due to vibrations or shocks. Moreover, the operation of taking nuclear fuel pellets in and out of the pellet-storing portions can be readily performed using an appropriate pushing machine or the like to provide reduced radiation exposure and enhanced operation efficiency.

4. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a partially cut-out side view of a pellet holder

FIG. 2 is a front view of a pellet holder body.

FIG. 3 is a vertical sectional view of a transport enclosure.

- 1: pellet holder body
- 2: pellet-storing portion
- 3: holder cover
- 4: elastic plug
- 5: outer case
- 6: inner case

7, 11: heat-insulating material

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9発明の名称
核燃料ペレット輸送用容器

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②出 顧 昭61(1986)4月22日

996 明 省 百 谷

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1. 発明の名称

核蝦科ペレット無米の金融

2. 特許開求の範囲

3. 別明の評価な説明

(発明の目的)

(産業上の利用分類)

本発明は被重料ペシット管法用容器に係り、特に被重的ペレットの品質を促作しながら輸送する

ことができるようにした核燃料ペレット希達用行 恐に回する。

(登泉の茂坂)

従来、一般的なセラミック製品を輸送する場合においては、相適用容力内に収納されるセラミック製品を経版符等の専用により支持し、輸送中に発生した協力・資効等を保証して、セラミック製品が確認しないようにしていた。

(発明が歴佚しようとする舞蹈点)

ところが、機想料ペレットは、品質の保持上から水麻おるいはハロゲン等を含む一般的な破骸料を と 物 放 することが 禁止されているので、 返 質 材 を 使 巾 しても 品面 が 低 下 しない で 独 遊 することが で きる 被 歯 肉 ペレット 像 透 用 き 雪 の 肉 発 が 亜 髪 さ れている。

また、板短利ベレットを、物道元または輸送光で出入れた集を行なう場合においては、独立くの低級なよび存成効率の向上を殴るために作品性の良い構造の容器が必要である。

本見街は以上のような問題点を解決するために

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なされたものであり、ベレッ収納部に核蟹料ベレットを収納して雑香材に提施しないようにして、 品質を保持しながら輸送を可能にし、かつ作業性 の座い等の複類料ベレット輸送用等温を選供する ことを目的とする。

(発明の構成)

(南風点を解決するための手段)

本発情は、核燃料ベレットの直接よりほかに大きな寸法を存する複数の関状のベレット収納部で互いに致好に設けたベレットホルダー本体の両温に、上記らベレット成納部の各様感に設定される。

存性プラグが設けられた整体をお願用能に移動し、上記ホルダー本体を耐熱、耐暖率性を有する容器内に収納するようにしたことを特性とする。

(作用)

ベレットホルダーの一種にホルダー両を装むした状態で、ベレット収納がに行込み項目等により 供質はベレットを収納した根にベレットホルダー 本体の意場にホルダー強を抜きし、その後上記ベ レットホルダー本体を解析、耐管等性を有する容 される。
(実施的)
第1回ペレットホルダーは一部切欠の報酬回、
第2回はベレットホルダー本体の正断関であって、
ペレットホルダー本体の正断関であって、
く関系含質)の直径よりほかに大きな寸接を有す
る複数の時状態のペレット収納毎2が宜いに並列

に汲けられている。またペレットホルダー本体 1

の両名には、各ペレット収拾び2にそれぞれ資源

される多色のスプリング最近券からなる単位分の

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沒内に収めして技能料ベシットの遊送を行なう。

しかして、この場合上記核燃料ペレットの興は、

多ペレット収納な内において同様が発性プラグに よって承圧されているので、各倍銭料ペレットの

惟尊方向の夢動が寵実に防止され、さらにペレッ

ト展前部によって単世方向の移動も前止される。

しから、上記各種観異ペレットを収納したペレッ

トホルダー本体を無断部はを内積する投送用容器

内に収納するので、後期用ペシットが直接に最初

毎材に追触することがなく、その品質低下が防止

グ4が取けられたホルダー近3が普段可能に契む されている。

そこで、後期科ペレットを検済する場合には、まずペレットホルダー本体1の一様にホルダー数3を貼着した状態で、ペレット収納部2に検燃料ペレットを呼込み級数文は炉込み線(固定管等)により収納した後に、ペレットホルダー本体1の

他協にホルダー道3を協分する。このようにして、ペレット収納が2に数据的ペレットを収納したペレットホルダー本体1を、内面容量6の下型に設けられている関節部は13上に収置してから、ガスケット8、内容容置置9および外部容益近12を変現する。

上型のような後載料ベレット輸送用等因のベレットホルダー本は1のベレット収納車2に後度料ベレットの前車2に後度料ベレットの位がより吸かに大部2の寸値が検気料ベレットの近びより吸かに大きくなっているので、後度料ベレットの単径方向

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の移動を紡止することができる。またベレットホ ルダー末は1のペレット収納却2の両着には、ス アリング資政等の弾性アラグ4が説标され、ベレ ット卯の両組即が弾性アラグ4によって内方に弾 圧されているので、各核燃料ペレットの長さには らつきがめっても情報方向の移動が発賞に助止さ れる。またペレットホルダー本体1のペレット収 納思 2 に複雑段ペレットを収納し、ペレットホル ダー本体でを設容が好13上に保健しているので、 核鉱物ペシットが収接に維御部は13に採剤する ことがなく最致の位下が生ずるようなこともない。 またペレットホルダー本体1を、スプリング修士 ちの異句が材13上に依頼しているので、ペレッ トホルダー本体1の双付金樽が良好になるととも に、異数・眼帯が吸収される。また内部容易6は、 ガスケット8を介して内部容器型9をポルト10 で取付けることにより雷対性を発表できる。さら にまた外部容忍らと内部容易らの例だは、動態材 7 モ介罪されており外部容器置12を締めつける 財政となっているので、耐熱性および耐賀技性等

の消令上の検送器車を対すことができる。

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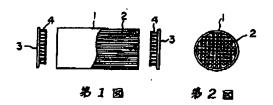
(段明の外型)

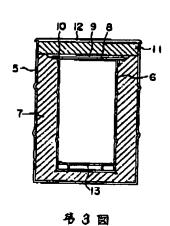
4. 西面の肉型な説明

前1 数はベレットホルダーの一部切欠側面固、 前2 歯はベレットホルダー本体の定衡間、閉3 圏 は投進用智器の観解調図である。

1 ーペレットホルダー本体、 2 ーペレット収納等、 3 ーホルダー面、 4 一弾性プラグ、 5 一外は守着、 6 一内部曾名、 7、 1 1 一新飛柱。

出點人代班人 佐 蕗 一 庻





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